

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. **(currently amended)** A carrying bag for placement on a floor by a user, comprising:

a bottom external surface; and

a mat attached to said bottom external surface and comprising panels of an at least semi-rigid nature, the panels adapted to provide an unfolded configuration having an upper surface for the user to stand on or to place articles upon and an opposing lower surface to contact the floor; and

retainers for holding the mat in a retained folded configuration below the bottom external surface,

wherein said mat comprises three panels, the first panel being attached to said bottom external surface, and the second panel being hingedly attached along side edges to the first panel and to the third panel, said upper surface portions of the second and third panels are in inwardly facing relationship to each other when said mat is in the folded configuration so as to prevent cross-contamination of said upper surface with a soiled opposing lower surface.

Claims 2-4 **(cancelled)**

5. **(currently amended)** A sanitary mat for placement on a floor by a user, in combination with a bag having a bottom portion, comprising:

a plurality of panels of an at least semi-rigid nature, the panels adapted to provide an unfolded configuration having an upper surface adjacent to said bag for the user to stand on or to place articles upon and an opposing lower surface to contact the floor; and

a magnetic means of retaining said panels in a folded configuration,

wherein one of said panels is adapted to be fixedly or removably attached to the bottom portion of said bag in both the unfolded configuration and in a folded configuration.

6. **(previously presented)** The sanitary mat according to claim 5, wherein:
the plurality of panels consists of three panels,

the first panel being adapted to be attached to the bottom portion of the bag, and
the second panel being hingedly attached along side edges to the first panel and
to the third panel,

wherein the upper surface portions of the second and third panels are in inwardly
facing relationship to each other when the mat is in the folded configuration.

Claims 7-10 **(cancelled)**

11. **(previously presented)** The sanitary mat according to claim 5, further comprising
a tab portion on a side edge of one panel, said tab portion adapted to be grabbed or
stepped on.

Claims 12-14 **(cancelled)**

15. **(previously presented)** The carrying bag of claim 1, wherein said mat is
removably attached to the bag.

16. **(previously presented)** The carrying bag of claim 1, wherein the panels are
integrally formed.

Claims 17-18 **(cancelled)**

19. **(previously presented)** The carrying bag of claim 1, wherein the retainers for
holding the mat in the folded configuration comprise magnets.

20. **(cancelled)**

21. **(currently amended)** The carrying bag of claim 1, wherein said mat is fixedly
attached to said bag such that a first panel of said mat serves as the bottom of said bag
and the lower surface of the first panel is the bottom external when said mat is in the
unfolded configuration.

22. **(new)** A carrying bag for placement on a floor by a user, comprising:
a bottom external surface;
a mat with removable or fixed means of attachment to said bottom external surface with said mat comprising panels being at least semi-rigid in nature, the panels adapted to provide an unfolded configuration having an upper surface upon which a user may stand or place articles and an opposing lower surface to contact the floor; and
a magnetic means for retaining said panels in a folded configuration.
23. **(new)** The carrying bag of claim **22**, wherein said mat comprises three panels, the first panel being attached to said bottom external surface, and the second panel being hingedly attached along side edges to said first panel and to the third panel,
wherein the upper surface portions of said second and third panels are in inwardly facing relationship to each other when said mat is in the folded configuration.
24. **(new)** The carrying bag of claim **22**, wherein said mat further comprises a tab portion on a side edge of one panel, said tab portion adapted to be grabbed or stepped on.
25. **(new)** The carrying bag of claim **22**, wherein said mat is fixedly attached to said bag such that a first panel of said mat serves as the bottom of said bag and the lower surface of the first panel is the bottom external surface when said mat is an unfolded configuration.
26. **(new)** The carrying bag according to claim **22**, wherein the panels are stacked on top of each other in the folded configuration and are in adjacent planar relationship on the floor in the unfolded configuration.
27. **(new)** The carrying bag of claim **22**, wherein the panels are integrally formed.
28. **(new)** The carrying bag of claim **1**, wherein said mat further comprises a tab portion on a side edge of one panel, said tab portion adapted to be grabbed or stepped on.

29. **(new)** The carrying bag according to claim **1**, wherein the panels are stacked on top of each other in the folded configuration and are in adjacent planar relationship on the floor in the unfolded configuration.

30. **(new)** The carrying bag of claim **1**, wherein the panels comprise biocidal materials.

31. **(new)** The sanitary mat according to claim **5**, wherein the panels are stacked on top of each other in the folded configuration and are in adjacent planar relationship on the floor in the unfolded configuration.

32. **(new)** The carrying bag of claim **5**, wherein said mat is fixedly attached to said bag such that a first panel of said mat serves as the bottom of said bag and the lower surface of the first panel is the bottom external surface when said mat is an unfolded configuration.

33. **(new)** The carrying bag of claim **5**, wherein the panels are integrally formed.